

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT AND REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

DETAILED ACTION

- 1.1 An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claims 12-13 are cancelled as being drawn to a non elected invention.

Allowable Subject Matter

- 2.1 The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Claims 1-11, 14-23 are allowed for the following reason/s:
The instant application is deemed to be directed towards a non-obvious improvement over the invention patented in U.S. Patent No. 6252719 to Eichenbaum et al.
- 2.2 Claim 1 is allowed because the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious a an optical module/transceiver with an optical joint sleeve having a first mount surface to mount the first optical element and a second mount surface to mount the second optical element, wherein the first mount surface is a bottom surface of a first groove and the second mount surface is a bottom surface of a second groove that intersects the first groove.
- 2.3 Claims 2-11 and 14-23 are dependant either directly or indirectly upon claim 1 and are thus also allowable.
- 2.4 Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."
- 2.5 Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Guy G. Anderson whose telephone number is 571.272.8045. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday-Saturday 0900-2200.

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- 2.6 If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Frank Font can be reached on 571.272.2415. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.
- 2.7 Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

**/Guy G Anderson//BRIAN M. HEALY/
for FRANK FONT, SPE of Art Unit 2883
Examiner, Art Unit 2883
June 12, 2008**